

CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
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THE GULL



BIRDS OF PREY — APRIL

The April general membership meeting offers an unusual opportunity. It will be held at the San Francisco Zoo and will feature Nancy Venizeloz of the S.F. Zoological Society Raptor Rehabilitation Program. This special program will include both a slide presentation on the Zoo's Captive Raptor propagation program and a demonstration with live birds of prey. Birds are bred and raised for release in native wild habitat. On view this evening in this "flying exhibit" will be a Harris' Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk and a Bald Eagle.

Judd Howell of the National Park Service will discuss a new bird-banding project that is being conducted by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in cooperation with S. F. Zoological Society Raptor Rehabilitation Program. He will explain how GGAS members can train and work as volunteers on this project. It will provide a unique opportunity for interested individuals to band raptors in the field at the Marin Headlands. Anyone interested in further information prior to this meeting may telephone 556-7733.

This meeting will be held at the San Francisco Zoo on Thursday, Apr. 12. Participants must be escorted from the main gate on Sloat Blvd. to the meeting room. Please note that this escort will be available from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. If you arrive after 7:45 there will be no way for you to get in. The meeting will start promptly at 7:30. If you have questions please call the GGAS office (843-2222) before Apr. 12.

THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

GGAS members and guests will have the opportunity to watch bird carving demonstrations and see beautiful hand-carved birds produced by some of the Bay Area's finest bird carvers. The birds on exhibit will be available for purchase, and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Least Tern Study.

Laura Collins who has been studying the Least Tern nesting colony at the Oakland Airport and the Alameda Naval Air Station for the past three years will present a short program on this endangered species which has bred successfully in the East Bay. The Least Tern's historic breeding range formerly extended only as far north as Monterey. Her slide presentation will be followed by a short program on bird carving. Plan to attend.

FIELD TRIPS CALENDAR

(April 1984)

Sunday, April 1—Beginners' Trip to Five Brooks, Bolinas Lagoon and Audubon Canyon Ranch. See March Gull.

Saturday, April 7—Bothe-Napa State Park. See March Gull.

Sunday, April 8—Mines Road, Livermore. Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of the Nob Hill Shopping Center at S. Livermore and Pacific in Livermore. From there we will drive on mountain roads to Patterson. Bring food and liquids. We can expect to see Northern Orioles, Lewis' Woodpeckers, and Phainopeplas in this habitat. Roadrunners and Wild Turkeys have also been seen on this trip. Leader: Art Edwards (447-3720). (✓)

Wednesday, April 11 — Mini-trip to Briones Regional Park. Meet at the park at 9:30 a.m. Take Hwy. 24 east to the Orinda turnoff. Turn left and follow the San Pablo Dam Rd. about two miles to Bear Creek turnoff. Turn right and drive about two miles to Briones Regional Park entrance on the right. Wildcat Canyon Dr. across Tilden Park from the top of Spruce St. in Berkeley will also take you to Bear Creek Rd. We should see Northern Orioles, Lark Sparrows, Ashthroated Flycatchers and Lazuli Buntings. Leaders: Delpha deTimofeev and Ruth Voss (525-8032).

Saturday, April 14—Alameda and San Leandro Shoreline. Meet at 9 a.m. in Alameda at Broadway and Shoreline Dr. We will bird the Elsie B. Roemer Bird Sanctuary and the San Leandro Bay Regional Shoreline. Toward the end of the day we will look for Burrowing Owls on Bay Farm

Island. Be sure to bring lunch and liquids. We should see migrating shorebirds, many in breeding plumage. Bring a scope if you have one. Leader: Leora Feeney. (522-8525). (✓)

Sunday, April 15—Bodega Bay. Because of the Fishermen's Festival in Bodega Bay, the date for this trip has been changed to April 28. See details below.

Saturday, April 21—Briones Regional Park. Meet at 8 a.m. at the north entrance to Briones Park at the end of Briones Road. Take I-80 to Hwy. 4. Turn east on 4 (follow signs to Stockton and Martinez). Exit at Alhambra Avenue which is located approximately 8 ½ miles beyond the junction of I-80 and Hwy. 4. Turn right onto Alhambra Ave. This road forks after about 0.4 mile. Take the right fork (Alhambra Valley Rd.) for 1 ½ mile to a T intersection. Turn right. At about 150 yards turn left onto Briones Road. We will meet at the gate at the end of this road. Be prepared to carry lunch for a six mile hike. The terrain is hilly. We should see many of the common breeding birds of the interior areas of the East Bay. Leader: Pete White (229-1714). (✓)

Sunday, April 22—Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. for the traditional Easter walk around the Chain of Lakes and the other lakes in the vicinity. There is a variety of waterfowl including Wood Ducks at this time of year. We also should see at least two varieties of hummingbirds. After the walk we will have a champagne brunch at the Wave Restaurant (\$5-\$6). We will meet at 43rd. Ave. and Fulton St. near North Lake (Chain of Lakes). Leader: Betty Short (921-3020 work phone). (✓)

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Saturday, April 28—Bodega Bay for spring migrants. Meet at 9 a.m. at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and East Shore Rd. (½ mile north of Diekmann's Bay Store. We will bird Bodega harbor, Bodega head and possibly Salmon Creek. Pack a bag lunch to eat at Conzett's "Tilt City" where land birds abound in the spring.

If you come up Friday, lodging is available at the Best Western Motel (707-875-3525) and there are nice campsites at the Dunes State Park just north of our meeting place. Plan to get there early to be sure of getting a spot, or call a Ticketron office to reserve one. Leaders: Kurt Campbell and Nancy Conzett (527-2593, Kensington; 707-875-2231, Bodega Bay). (✓)

Sunday, April 29—San Andreas Lake and Lower Crystal Springs Reservoir. Meet at 8 a.m. at the north gate of Sawyer Camp Bicycle Trail in Millbrae, San Mateo County. From San Francisco take Hwy. 280 south, exit at Larkspur Ave., go under the freeway, turn right on Skyline Blvd. and continue south to Hillcrest Blvd., turn right and go to the end of the road (the trailhead). From the south (Hwy. 92) go north on Hwy. 280 to the Millbrae Ave. exit. From Millbrae Ave. go north about a block and turn left at Hillcrest, follow it to the end and park. Bring lunch, liquids and footgear appropriate for hiking about seven miles. Leader: Alan Hopkins (585-5669). (✓)

Sunday, May 6—Mt. Diablo State Park. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Rock City parking area. From Oakland go east on I-580, then north on I-680 to Danville and follow the signs east on Diablo Rd. to the park. The first available parking is at Rock City,

about one mile inside the south entrance station gate. Bring lunch and liquids. We will look for spring birds and wildflowers. Leader: Mary Louise Rosegay (386-1640). (✓)

Saturday, May 12—Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. Meet at 8 a.m. at Arlington Park at Arlington Ave. and Brewster Dr. in El Cerrito. From there we will drive to the starting point. Pack lunch and liquids for a six-mile hike. Boots are advisable. We will encounter some hills as we walk a transect of the canyon to bird in brushlands, oak woodlands, riparian streamsides and grasslands. We anticipate seeing a good representation of nesting and migrating birds of the East Bay. We will also identify common trees of the area. People with allergies should be aware that we will encounter grassy conditions. The trip will end at 2 p.m. Leader: Malcolm Sproul (841-3086). (✓)

NOTE FROM THE COMMITTEE—

Beginners are always welcome on GGAS field trips. Leaders and participants are eager to introduce people to this activity which we all enjoy. From time to time the committee will plan trips especially for beginners. These trips will generally go to nearby areas to see resident species.

GETTING BACK UP TO STRENGTH

It is a pleasure to announce that volunteers have stepped forward: Julie Eastwood began to proofread THE GULL with this issue, Helen Green is the new membership Chairman and Nicola Selph is Recording Secretary. Any More?

Saturday, May 5—Beginners' Trip to Briones Regional Park. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the parking lot past the Bear Valley entrance station. From Hwy. 24 take the Orinda exit to Camino Pablo and continue north for about two miles to Bear Creek Rd. (There is a sign to Briones Regional Park). Turn right and drive four miles east to the park entrance. Lunch optional. Leader: Gene Hull (525-6893). (✓)

Carpooling arrangements can be made for trips marked (✓). Call Kate Partridge at 236-9053 and leave a message. She will contact you.

Problems: If for any reason you have difficulty getting in touch with a field trip leader or need information regarding a trip, call Shirley Kelly (387-8290) or the GGAS office (843-2222).

—FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY OBSERVATIONS

through Feb. 29

GREBES TO EAGLES

Another inland Red-necked Grebe was on Calder Lane Ponds Feb. 25 (GF). Essentially all shearwaters off Monterey continue to be Short-tailed Shearwaters, but the high numbers are declining, with 30 on Feb. 11 (SFB, mob) the best concentration. The sparseness of Cattle Egret reports must reflect both a seasonal decrease and a slackening of observer vigilance and reporting. Apparently only small numbers were found: four north of Los Banos Feb. 5 (SFB, et al.), one near Martinez Feb. 12 (SC, SFB, et al.) two at Zmudowski State Beach Feb. 13 (CR), and one at Palo Alto Baylands Feb. 26 (JRo).

A female Tufted Duck was reported from Hyde St. Pier in San Francisco Feb. 13 (fide DW). Oldsquaws lingered at San Rafael through at least Feb. 6 (DT) and at Berkeley Pier all

month, (AG, WG). Another Oldsquaw was noted at Sausalito Feb. 3 (PH). A Harlequin Duck continues to winter at SE Farallon Island (PRBO).

Two Bald Eagles frequented Bethany Reservoir in early February. (JR, et al.). The report of five Bald Eagles wintering on San Antonio Reservoir in Alameda Co. raises more concerns about the major basalt quarrying operation proposed for the area.

CRANES TO ALCIDS

The Sandhill Crane is still inhabiting the area between Inverness Park and Point Reyes Station (GF, AG, WG), and a different Sandhill Crane was even closer to the ocean at Spaletta Ranch Feb. 27 (AG, WG). Lesser Golden-Plovers continue to winter in traditional sites: 15 at Lawson's Landing Jan. 29 (MLR, et al.) and four at Spaletta Ranch Feb. 27 (AG, WG). A good count of 289 Mountain Plovers on Feb. 5 came from a traditional area for this species near Davis (JML). Two Black Oystercatchers were again spotted on Castro Rocks off Richmond Feb. 14 (BR). This bird was unrecorded in the East Bay before June 1982.

The Solitary Sandpiper was again or still present near Inverness Feb. 17-27 (GF, et al., DT, DQ). A Rock Sandpiper at Princeton Harbor Feb. 16 (HG) was one of even fewer than usual this winter.

Both the Common Black-headed Gull and the wintering Little Gull remained at Stockton Sewage Ponds through the month (DJ). Although one of our most numerous winter gulls, Mew Gulls are not expected on an inland lake in concentrations apparently exceeding 10,000! Although other gull species may have swelled the total, all of those flying or close enough to identify on Lake Hennessey Feb. 25 were Mews (LF). A Glaucous Gull at Palo Alto Duck Pond

Feb. 26 (JRo) was in the expected first winter plumage. Two Marbled Murrelets south of their normal range Feb. 11 were at their most usual site of vagrancy, beside Cannery Row, Monterey.

LANDBIRDS

The Eastern Phoebe wintered at El Estero in Monterey at least through Feb. 11 (mob, SFB). A Black-billed Magpie along Joelle Drive in Concord for several weeks in January and February showed no conclusive evidence to support either natural or captive origin. JR, et al.). The two American Dippers along Alameda Creek in Sunol Regional Park Feb. 21 (JH) show that this is still a site of regular wintering, the only one known in the East Bay.

Two wintering frugivores appeared in locally unusual numbers. Three single Townsend's Solitaires on the mainland were not exceptional: in Berkeley Jan. 30 (DRi), above Monticello Dam Feb. 18 (JR, et al.), and on Mt. Diablo Feb. 27 (CS). However, three Solitaires arrived on SE Farallon amid a wave of American Robins Jan. 27 (PRBO). Moreover, SE Farallon experienced an unprecedented winter sprinkling of single Cedar Waxwings, on Jan. 18, 23 and Feb. 4. (PRBO). These may be subtle indicators of events for which normal mainland observations are insufficiently sensitive to detect.

Golden Gate Park's **Wood Thrush** was last reported Feb. 4 (JW, et al.). Another Nashville Warbler surviving the winter locally was in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Feb. 10 (MP). The female **Black-throated Blue Warbler** in Carmel Valley and the Northern Waterthrush in Iris Canyon, Monterey, were still both present Feb. 4 (DR, LCB). The male Summer Tanager west of North Lake, Golden

Gate Park, remained through the month (Feb. 26 -RL). The Swamp Sparrow wintering with the Solitary Sandpiper was seen Feb. 7 (GF). A Harris' Sparrow found in Carmel Valley was there Feb. 4 (DR, LCB). Red Crossbills continue to enliven the area between the Archery Range and North Lake in Golden Gate Park, and behaviors suggest that they may nest there soon (JM, mob).

Observers: Stephen F. Bailey, Laurence C. Binford, Graham Chisholm, Susan Collins, Nancy Conzett, A. Laurence Curl, Leora Feeney, Gary Fellers, Albert Ghiorso, Wilma Ghiorso, Helen Green, Ed Harper, Phil Henderson, Jean Hull, Richard Jeffers, Dick Johnson, Dick Kemp, Jeri Langham, Robert Laws, Armen Mannis, many observers (mob), Joseph Morlan, John Nelson, Point Reyes Bird Observatory (Farallon report thanks to Harry Carter), Michael Perrone, Dave Quady, David Rice (DRi), Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond (JR), Don Roberson (DR), Chris Roper, Mary Louise Rosegay, Jim Royer (JRo), Chris Swarth, Dorothy Tobkin, Joseph Van Os, Jack Whetstone, David Wimpfheimer, Jon Zablackis.

—STEPHEN F. BAILEY,

Observations Editor

Museum of Vertebrate Zoology,

University of California,

Berkeley, CA 94720

(phone 548-9507 or Joseph Morlan at 524-7421)

GGAS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The 1984 Scholarship to the Audubon Ecology Camp in the West has been awarded to Julia Harris Gibson, a San Francisco elementary school teacher. Congratulations are extended to her from the GGAS board of directors, which also thanks the many

applicants who applied this year. Each individual expressed a sincere and long standing interest in wildlife and conservation.

There are still some spaces available for sessions of the Audubon Ecology Camp in the West which offers quality environmental education for adults of all ages. It is held in the spectacular setting of the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming. Call the GGAS office for information and a brochure.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION INTERNS

The National Audubon Society's Western Education Center (Richardson Bay Sanctuary) has reinstated the intern program, designed to offer hands-on education in nature interpretation and resource management for college students or other interested persons. Housing is provided at the Center. Applications are now being accepted for summer and fall. Applicants should write the Center for information and send a resume. A personal interview will be required. The address of the Center is 386 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920.

THE BACK YARD BIRDER

After courtship, a pair bond between the male and female bird is formed. Usually the desire to nest begins after mating, with one or both birds picking the site and gathering nesting materials. The nest is most often the babies' nursery, although some species will continue to use the nest as protection from the elements. We tend to think of a bird nest in the familiar bowl-like form of a robin's nest. Most songbirds (Passerines) build a similar structure. But there are all kinds of architecture depending on a particular species' needs: available materials, food requirements, protection

from predators and weather conditions. Nests range from a simple scrape on the ground, sometimes lined, to floating nests, holes in trees or in the ground, stick platforms, domed or enclosed nests, suspended nests or mud structures.

With the encroachment of man, there is sometimes a shortage of space, particularly among hole-nesting types of birds. They rely on abandoned woodpecker holes in particular, nearly as scarce as an apartment in Berkeley. You can help with the apartment shortage in your neighborhood by providing housing. About 35 species of cavity-nesting birds will use bird houses or nest boxes. Each species has certain requirements of floor size, depth or box, diameter of the entrance and height above the ground. Your local library should have specific "how-to" information available.

Here are a few guidelines:

- Since the young of most of the cavity-dwellers are born naked they are vulnerable to extremes of heat and cold. Location of the entrance hole should not be exposed to the prevailing direction of storms. Make sure the box rests slightly slanted to the ground, providing added protection from the rain. (Too much tilt might tip the baby birds out of the nest).
- Since birds are territorial, they prefer some distance between them and their neighbors. About four or five boxes per acre is a good number.
- Try to allow a clear flight-path to the entrance.
- If cats prowl your area the box should be on a metal pole or have a metal cat guard (or racoon or snake guard).
- Some undesirable birds such as House Sparrows or Starlings may decide to take up residence. They can

be discouraged by plugging the hole (since they nest early in the season) until the desired species appears in your yard.

- To reduce nest parasites, clean house at the end of each nesting season. Most house plans allow for this with a removable section.
- The house may have to "age" one season before you attract a family.

It's fun to provide nesting material for lining the box or for a nest. Make a box from two berry cartons (the plastic type with holes) and fill it with short pieces of string or yarn, lint from the dryer (hummingbirds love this), feathers, even bits of facial tissue. Hang it up from an eave or some sheltered spot and watch the action. As an example of the ingenuity of birds, a pair of Canyon Wrens in Fresno County built a nest entirely of office supplies: paper slips, safety and straight pins, rubber bands, thumbtacks, matches, etc. They used 1791 items and the nest weighed two and a half pounds!

Use common sense in observing your nesting pairs. Most birds will abandon their nests if unduly disturbed, especially in the early phases of nest-building. Some species are more skittish than others. Birds will be tolerant of your spying if your presence is found to be innocuous. If a bird flushes off its eggs or stops feeding its young, back off. Enjoy watching the parents' activities and you may be rewarded by the baby's inaugural flights.

—MEG PAULETICH

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Some additional books recently acquired by the GGAS Library include studies of the California Condor, the Brown Pelican and the Great Gray Owl. Sanford Wilbur's account of the

condor's plight focusses on the years 1966-76, not one of the species' better decades. Don Guravich, on the other hand, has more encouraging news to offer in **The Return of the Brown Pelican**, a handsomely illustrated book. "Phantom of the northern forest" is how Robert Nero describes the Great Gray Owl; this book, too, is well illustrated with photos of this mysterious bird, including several taken at nests.

That ever-popular order, the penguins, is discussed by the "King Penguin" himself, Roger Tory Peterson. **Penguins** covers all species, from the Little Blue Penguin of New Zealand to Antarctica's huge Emperor. Peterson carefully avoids humanizing these birds as he discusses their amazing adaptations. This is a good book to read before visiting the penguin exhibit at the Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco, or the remarkable new exhibit at San Diego's Sea World. It is, of course, profusely illustrated with the author's photographs and paintings.

If looking at all these outstanding bird photographs makes you wish you could take some of your own, John Warham's **Techniques of Bird Photography** serves as an excellent source of advice on everything from choosing camera and lenses to setting up a blind. Though published in Britain, its contents are generally applicable to American photographers.

—CHRISTINE JONES, Librarian

GGAS PHOTO COMPETITION

Plan now to show your nature photographs at the GGAS Fall Photography Fair. This exhibit/competition will offer amateur photographers the opportunity to have their work

displayed at the October GGAS meeting. The GULL for May will include all the particulars.

SPRING BIRD COUNT

For a good time, come out for the Cheap Thrills Spring Bird Count, Saturday, May 26. Using the same count area and format as the "Arroyo Cheap Thrills" Christmas Count (centered in northeastern Marin County), this annual event is unlike Christmas-time counts — the weather is traditionally beautiful, and the birds are bright and full of song. What better way to spend a Saturday of Memorial Day weekend than finding a quail's nest among the California poppies? The status of our spring and summer birds in the Bay Area is surprisingly poorly known, and this yearly effort turns up some surprises every time. Sonoma County's first known Nesting Northern Shoveler was discovered on last year's count. Mark your calendar now, and drop me a card by May 1, at P.O. Box 268, Cotati, CA 94928. Don't miss the fun of this event.

—KURT CAMPBELL, Compiler

THE RIGHT TO WRITE

from THE AUDUBON LEADER

The Hon. Morris K. Udall's letter is of interest:

Surprisingly few people ever write to their congressman. Perhaps 90% of our citizens live and die without ever taking pen in hand and expressing a single opinion to the person who represents them in Congress — a person whose vote may decide what price they pay for the acts of government, either in dollars or in human lives.

Mail to a modern-day congressman is more important than ever before. In the days of Calhoun, Clay, Webster and Lincoln, congressmen lived among their people for perhaps nine months of the year. Through daily

contacts in a constituency of less than 50,000 people (I represent ten times that many) they could feel rather completely informed on their constituents' beliefs and feelings. Today, with the staggering problems of government and increasingly long sessions I must not only vote on many more issues than an early day congressman but I rarely get to spend more than 60 days a year in Utah. Thus my mailbag is my best "hot line" to the people back home.

Some suggestions that apply to all congressional mail:

1) ADDRESS IT PROPERLY. "Hon., House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515 or Senator ... Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510.

2) IDENTIFY THE BILL OR ISSUE. About 20,000 bills are introduced into each Congress so it is important to be specific. If you write about a bill, try to give the bill number or describe it by a popular title ("truth in lending", "minimum wage", etc.).

3) THE LETTER SHOULD BE TIMELY. Sometimes a bill is out of committee or has passed the House before a helpful letter arrives. Inform your congressman while there is still time to take action.

4) CONCENTRATE ON YOUR OWN DELEGATION. All letters written by residents of my district to other congressmen will simply be referred to me for reply, and vice versa.

5) BE REASONABLY BRIEF. Every working day the mailman leaves some 150 pieces of mail at my office. It is not necessary that letters be typed — only that they be legible — and the form, grammar and phraseology are completely unimportant.

6) STUDENT LETTERS ARE WELCOME. Their opinions are important to me.

7) **WRITE YOUR OWN VIEWS, NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S.** A personal letter is far better than a form letter or a signature on a petition. I usually know what the major lobbying groups are saying, but I don't often know of your experiences and observations, or what the proposed bill will do to or for you.

8) **GIVE YOUR REASONS FOR TAKING A STAND.** I may not know all the effects of the bill and what it may mean to an important segment of my constituency.

9) **BE CONSTRUCTIVE.** If a bill deals with a problem you admit exists, but you believe the bill is the wrong approach, tell me what the right approach is.

10) **IF YOU HAVE ANY EXPERT KNOWLEDGE, SHARE IT WITH YOUR CONGRESSMAN.** I can't possibly be an expert in all fields; many of my constituents are expert in some of them. I welcome their advice and counsel.

11) **SAY "WELL DONE" WHEN IT IS DESERVED.** Congressmen are human too, and they appreciate an occasional "well done" from people who believe they have done the right thing. I know I do. But even if I went wrong on an issue, I would welcome a letter telling me you disagreed; it may help me on another issue later.

SOME DON'TS:

- 1) Don't make threats or promises.
- 2) Don't berate your congressman.
- 3) Don't pretend you wield vast political influence.
- 4) Don't try to instruct your congressman on every issue that comes up. Don't be a pen pal.

During the two-year life of this Congress, the House Clerk will record my vote on more than 250 issues. But in a very real sense these will not be

my votes, they will be yours too.

—MORRIS K. UDALL

NOTE TO BIRDATHONERS

Participants in either National Audubon's Birdathon this spring or the Point Reyes Bird Observatory/Mono Lake Birdathon in fall should be aware of the class designed to help them increase their scores. Dr. Stephen F. Bailey's Big Day —Birdathon Workshop meets 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays through April 25 at Albany Adult School. Call Steve at 548-9507 for details.

STEVE BAILEY'S BIRDING TRIPS

The very popular California Desert trip led each spring by Dr. Stephen F. Bailey will be May 12-15. It will concentrate on the eastern Mojave Desert, a remote, little-known area of great beauty. Target birds include Bendire's Crissal, and Le Conte's Thrasher, Gray Vireo, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, and many other resident and migrants.

Steve is planning to expand his program of weekend and longer trips. Until a mailing list of known participants and interested birders is developed, those interested should phone Steve (548-9507) to learn the schedule.

Presently planned are a weekend at Sagehen Creek Field Station in early July as an extension to a class on woodpeckers and other tree-hole nesting birds, and a week in south-eastern Arizona Aug. 4-12.

GGAS SPONSORED CLASS: BEGINNING BIRD CARVING

Spend a spring Saturday in the country and learn the basics of bird

carving (the only folk art indigenous to North America). Participants will need only a "whittlin" knife to complete a carving of a songbird or shorebird (choice to be announced in the course syllabus). Basic carving, painting and finishing techniques, patterns, tool sharpening and much more will be covered in this all-day workshop.

Each session is limited to six participants (adults only) so that each student will have the advantage of personalized instruction. Two Saturday sessions will be offered: May 12 and May 19 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost for the workshop is \$25 with an additional \$5 materials fee. You are advised to register early to insure a reservation.

Absolutely no previous woodworking experience is necessary. Each carver will have the option of carving his bird as lifelike as possible, stylized or country primitive. This is the only class of it's type in the Bay Area.

Learn the art of bird carving this spring. For a complete course summary and more detailed information call the GGAS office or write Bird Carving, 2369 Morrison Ln., Suisun, CA 94585. Phone (707) 864-0821. Suisun is 45 minutes from the East Bay and one hour from San Francisco.

FREMONT BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

A six week class meeting on Tuesday mornings starting at 9:30 a.m. April 24 will continue until May 29. Sponsored by the Fremont Adult School, and taught by Alice Hoch, registration is at the first meeting of the class at the conference room, Fremont Adult School, 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont. Each Week a different birding spot is visited. Carpools can be arranged. Phone 791-5841 or 657-0475.

SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATIONISTS

If you would like to get involved in GGAS conservation efforts but the bridge is too big a barrier for you to attend meetings in Berkeley, call chairman Art Feinstein. Meetings will be scheduled in San Francisco if there is sufficient interest. Get involved; give Art a call at 282-5937.

NATIONAL AUDUBON MAGAZINE

The GGAS office will accept with gratitude your 1980-83 copies of the National Audubon Magazine in good condition. The copies will be used for promotional purposes. If you have some to donate, please bring them to the GGAS office. If the office is closed, simply leave them at the door. Your recycling will help GGAS and National Audubon spread the message about its conservation efforts and achievements.

PRBO OUTING TO SOUTHWEST TEXAS

Rich Stallcup is the leader of a Point Reyes Bird Observatory sponsored trip to the Big Bend National Park, southwest Texas. The trip is announced for May 25-31 at \$470 (\$450 for PRBO members). From the Rio Grande at 1800 feet to the lofty Chisos Mountains over 7500 feet, this land is strange and starkly beautiful. Riparian thickets, oases and open desert, oaklined canyons and mixed coniferous forests are on the route and the party will float the river through awesome Santa Elena Canyon. Expected are the Zoned-tailed Hawk, Scaled Quail, Elf Owl, Lucifer and Blue-throated Hummingbirds, Gray Vireo, Colima Warbler, Painted Redstart, Black-chinned Sparrow and other Texas species. Call 868-1221.



STRETCHING — CANADA GOOSE

by Robert Bateman

GGAS has been given authority to offer to interested members a limited edition print by Robert Bateman, Canadian wildlife artist. The California Waterfowl Association, a non-profit association, sponsoring the sale, will give GGAS \$50 of the sale price of its sales to our members. CWS will use its proceeds for wetland purchase and restoration. All donations to CWS are tax deductible.

The demand for Robert Bateman's work is great and this print will sell out almost immediately after it is released. This print is available only to individuals and not through art dealers.

If you would like to order a copy of "Stretching — Canada Goose", please send your check to the GGAS office by April 15 to avoid disappointment. Make the check payable to California

Waterfowl Assn. in the amount of \$249.62, (signed and numbered print \$225., sales tax \$14.62, and shipping and handling \$10). Prints are shipped guaranteed to arrive in mint condition.

Cooper Society Meetings

Everyone is invited to our last two ornithological research seminars of the 1983-84 season. On Monday, Apr. 2, Dan Ariolo, a wildlife biologist for Lassen National Forest, will discuss "Osprey status and management on the National Forests of California." On Monday, Apr. 30 Dr Judith Wagner of Cal. State Hayward will speak on "Birds of the east Sierra slope: how number of species varies with elevation above Owens Valley."

Each presentation will be in Room 2503, Life Sciences Bldg., UC Berkeley at 8 p.m., preceded at 7:45 p.m. by a brief business meeting of the Northern California Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Society.

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

FOR GGAS

Gift of

Bequest of Ruth Jane Gellerman
Mary Ellen Hawley

In Memory of

Robert C. Frates, D.D.S.

Marborough MacKinney
Mrs. Dikram Berberian

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Send address changes to office promptly; Post Office does not forward *THE GULL*. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$30 per year (individual); \$38 (family); includes *AUDUBON* Magazine and *THE GULL*; to join, make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving *THE GULL*. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to *THE GULL* separately \$8 per year; single issues \$1. High school and college student membership \$18 per year. Senior citizen individual \$21, senior citizen family \$23. Associate Membership in Golden Gate Audubon Society, \$10 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. was established January 25, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.